2003 Elementary Literacy Assessment • Schools Report

Annapolis Valley Regional School Board

NOVA SCOTIA
Department of Education

104-04412/

Background

The Elementary Literacy Assessment is part of the province's Learning for Life plan to ensure young Nova Scotians have the literacy skills they need to succeed in school and in life. It was administered for the first time from October 14 to 17, 2003. During the assessment, students read a variety of materials, including a short story, information texts, a poem, and a visual media text, and answered questions based on those readings. Students were also required to write a letter suggesting a solution to a problem and write a story in response to a prompt. The chart below shows student performance in terms of not meeting, meeting, or exceeding the expectations for reading and writing.

Helping All Students Succeed

The assessment allowed grade 6 students in Nova Scotia to demonstrate how well they have learned selected reading and writing outcomes of the elementary language arts curriculum. Its purpose is to provide information about individual students' reading and writing skills, so that students who are struggling can be given more support to help them catch up. The Department of Education plans to build on its program of monitoring and supporting student progress with another literacy assessment to be administered when these grade 6 students reach grade 9.

Working With Teachers

The assessment was developed by the department's Testing and Evaluation Division with the help of grade 6 teachers and was field-tested in schools across Nova Scotia. The performance levels required in order for students to meet expectations in reading and in writing were determined by teachers. The writing sections of the assessment were marked by a team of teachers under the direction of the Department of Education.

Sharing Responsibility

It should be remembered that while literacy skills are developed in the school, they are also developed in the home, in the community, and in other areas of life and are influenced by many factors. The results of the Elementary Literacy Assessment, therefore, should not be seen solely as a reflection of students' teachers or schools, nor should the results be used to rank or compare schools.

	Reading														Writing															
	Number of Students			Overall (%)			Males (%)			Females (%)			French Immersion (%)			Overall (%)			Males (%)			Females (%)			French Immersion (%)			Letter-writing (%)			Story-writing (%)		
	Overall	Males	Females	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding	Not Meeting	Meeting	Exceeding
Nova Scotia	10486	5232	5254	10	78	12	12	78	11	9	78	13	4	76	20	19	40	42	24	44	32	13	35	52	13	35	52	37	8	55	34	10	56
Annapolis Valley Regional School Board	1192	594	598	10	80	10	11	80	8	9	79	12	9	64	27	18	40	42	22	44	34	13	37	50	14	36	50	36	8	56	32	12	56
Annapolis East Elementary School	98	50	48	5	86	9	10	82	8		90	10				17	40	43	26	40	34	8	40	52				38	7	55	32	10	58
Annapolis Royal Regional Academy	62	25	37	13	85	2	12	88		14	84	3				18	47	35	24	56	20	14	41	46				42	10	48	31	23	47
Berwick and District School	54	31	23	6	80	15	6	71	23	4	91	4				9	52	39	6	52	42	13	52	35				28	11	61	31	19	50
Bridgetown Regional Elementary School	34	16	18	18	71	12	13	75	13	22	67	11				26	41	32	25	38	38	28	44	28				53	9	38	35	15	50
Brooklyn District Elementary School	43	20	23	12	86	2	15	85		9	87	4				30	42	28	30	45	25	30	39	30				49	7	44	49	12	40
Cambridge and District Elementary School	22	8	14	18	73	9	25	75		14	71	14				36	36	27	50	38	13	29	36	36				45		55	50	18	32
Coldbrook and District School	88	44	44	7	86	7	9	86	5	5	86	9				10	44	45	16	48	36	5	41	55				31	8	61	27	14	59
Dr. Arthur Hines School	31	18	13	13	84	3	17	83		8	85	8				29	32	39	33	44	22	23	15	62				52	3	45	35	13	52
Evangeline Middle School	116	57	59	9	75	16	11	81	9	8	69	22	9	64	27	16	43	41	19	49	32	12	37	51	14	36	50	36	9	55	34	7	59
Falmouth District School	36	27	9	6	78	17	7	78	15		78	22				19	47	33	22	44	33	11	56	33				39	8	53	44	6	50
Gaspereau Valley Elementary School	36	19	17	6	86	8		95	5	12	76	12				8	50	42	16	58	26		41	59				31	11	58	25	11	64
Hantsport School	15	7	8	13	87			100		25	75					40	20	40	43	29	29	38	13	50				60		40	40	7	53
Kings County Academy	55	24	31	24	69	7	21	71	8	26	68	6				9	45	45	13	50	38	6	42	52				25	9	65	24	24	53
L.E. Shaw Elementary School	49	26	23	6	88	6	4	88	8	9	87	4				6	24	69	8	27	65	4	22	74				12	8	80	18	4	78
Lawrencetown Consolidated Elementary School	19	9	10	11	84	5		89	11	20	80					16	37	47	33	22	44		50	50				32	5	63	32	5	63
Margaretville Consolidated School	9	5	4	11	78	11	20	80			75	25				33	11	56	40	20	40	25		75				33	11	56	44		56
Newport Station District School	16	5	11	6	75	19		60	40	9	82	9				6	13	81			100	9	18	73				19		81	6	6	88
Northeast Kings Education Centre	91	42	49	11	76	13	12	83	5	10	69	20				23	42	35	29	55	17	18	31	51				45	11	44	34	14	52
Pineridge Middle School	164	80	84	12	80	8	13	84	4	11	77	12				23	35	41	30	43	28	17	29	55				41	7	52	37	10	54
Somerset and District Elementary School	33	16	17	3	76	21	6	63	31		88	12				12	45	42	19	44	38	6	47	47				24	21	55	24	15	61
Three Mile Plains District School	22	12	10	27	68	5	25	75		30	60	10				18	59	23	17	58	25	20	60	20				50		50	50	14	36
Windsor Elementary School	38	23	15	16	79	5	26	74			87	13				18	37	45	17	35	48	20	40	40				29	8	63	32	16	53
Windsor Forks District School	22	13	9	5	91	5	8	85	8		100					18	41	41	31	15	54		78	22				36	14	50	32	9	59
Wolfville School	39	17	22	5	62	33	12	53	35		68	32				3	33	64	6	35	59		32	68				18	8	74	18	8	74

Note:

- Schools with six or fewer grade 6 students are not included in this report.
- 'Numbers of Students' does not include students from the Conseil scolaire acadien provincial, students with English Language Arts Individualized Program Plans, students who were exempted, or students from whom there was insufficient evidence.
- French immersion students wrote the assessment in English.
- 'Exceeds expectations' is a designation given to reading scores above 90% and writing scores that meet expectations in all elements of writing in both writing tasks. This designation does not appear on individual student reports.
- Percentages in each section may not add up to 100% due to rounding.

Supporting Students

Providing individual and school-by-school results is part of the province's Learning for Life plan. The results give parents, teachers, school boards and the Department of Education information to support all students, especially those who are struggling with reading and/or writing.

Parents and guardians are getting their own children's results. Schools are contacting parents of students who did not meet expectations to discuss the results and ways to support these students. The support will continue in junior high and for as long as it is needed.

As well, each school has its own students' results, which will help teachers, principals, parents and guardians, and others with plans for improving their schools. All partners will have results each year to measure progress and the impact of decisions designed to improve students' literacy skills.

The department will continue to work with its partners to help all students in Nova Scotia learn and grow to their full potential.

For more information about the Elementary Literacy Assessment visit our website at <**plans.EDnet.ns.ca**>.